GRAVEDIGGER'S FIRST FULL-LENGTH NOVEL!

35¢

NO. 7
JULY
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MEN OF WAR

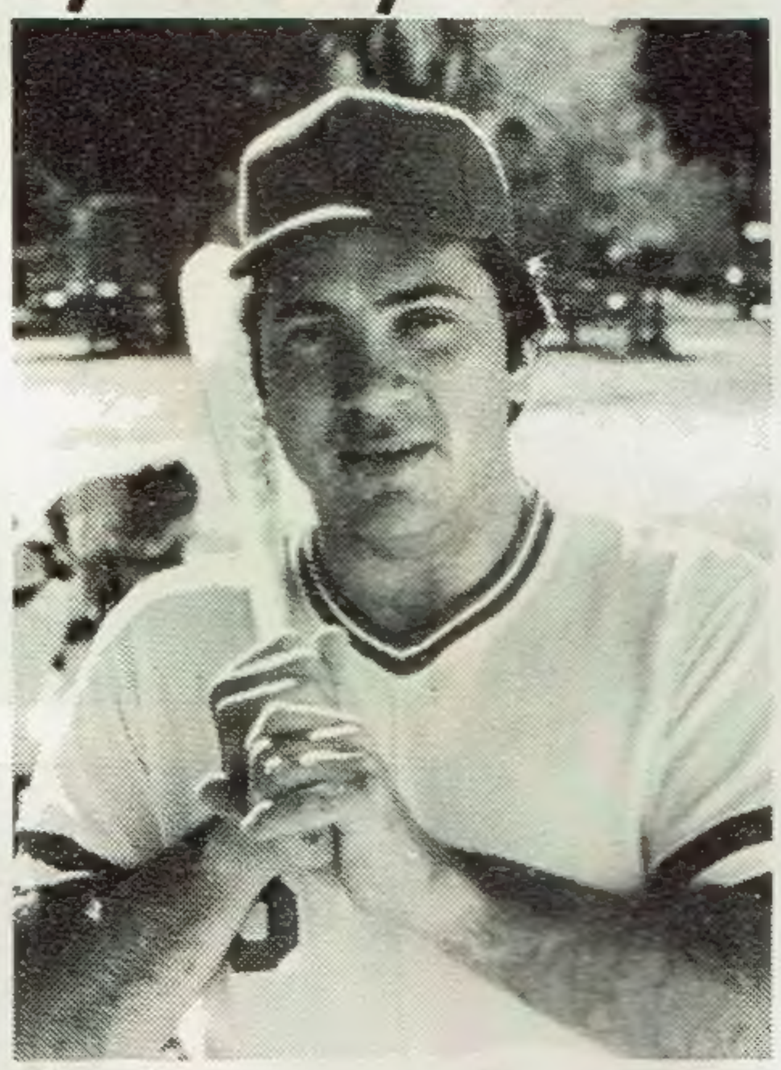
THE DEADLY DANGER OF A "MILKRUN!"

JOE KUBERT

07
0 70989 32453

"THE TOUGHEST PITCHER I EVER FACED."

by Johnny Bench



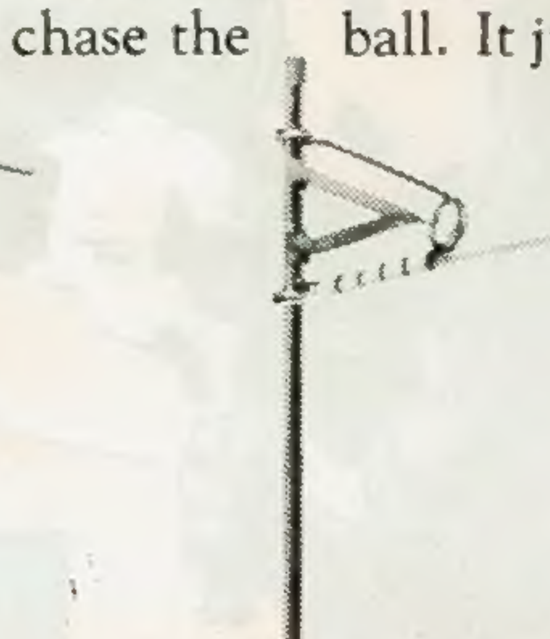
Tough? This pitcher was inhuman. Absolutely tireless, for one thing. And I was looking at a variety of pitches like you wouldn't believe. Different speeds: fast balls, slow balls, and everything

in between. Plenty of sliders. And the world's toughest knuckler.

But don't get me wrong. It was great batting practice. It always is. Because the pitcher I'm talking about isn't a person, and isn't a toy. What it is, is the best training device I've ever seen. It's made by Fonas, and it's called Johnny Bench Batter Up.

With Batter Up, you can practice for hours by yourself. You learn to keep your eye on the ball and follow the ball's movement. It helps develop quick reflexes. Helps your timing. But the most important thing it does, is help you develop a level swing. You know when you've hit it wrong. You also know when you've done everything right.

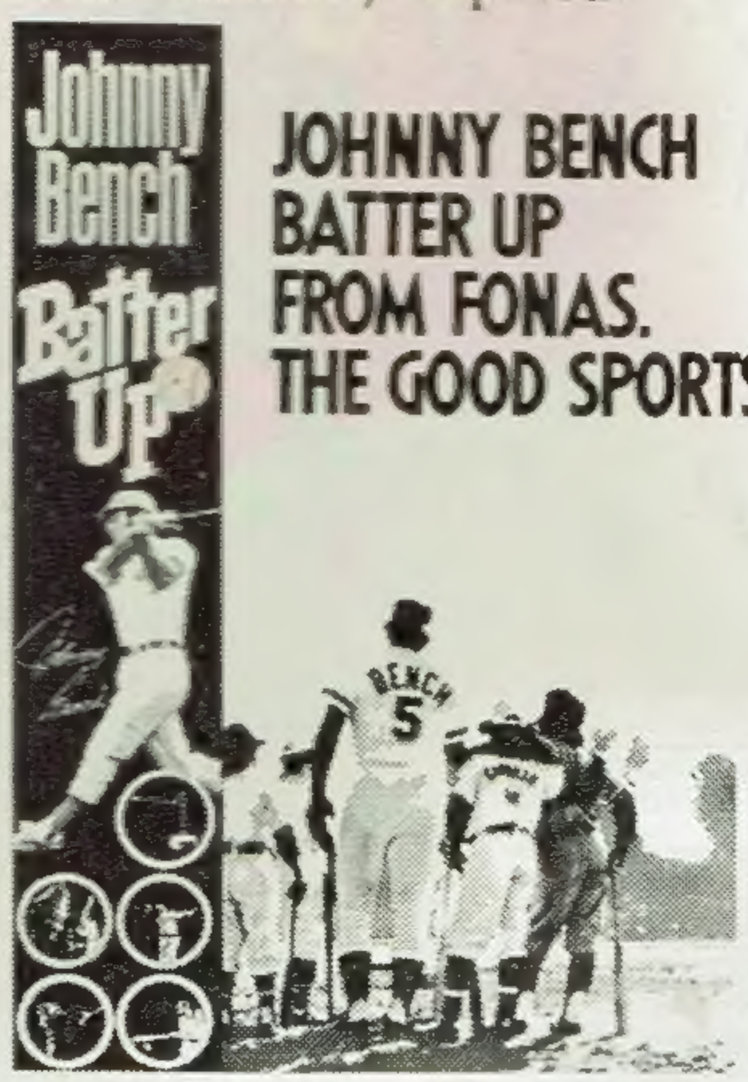
Batter Up is built to last. It doesn't take up a lot of room, and you don't have to chase the ball. It just keeps



coming back for more. And the more batting practice you get, the more you'll get to know your own swing and learn to develop it into a good one.

Like I said, this one's a tough pitcher to face. But if it were real easy, it wouldn't be any fun, either.

You can find your Johnny Bench Batter Up wherever toys or sporting goods are sold. Some assembly required.



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CODE NAME: Gravdigger

STRICKEN WITH POLIO AS A CHILD, *ULYSSES HAZARD* HAD FOUGHT TO BUILD HIS FRAIL BODY INTO A *POWERHOUSE* OF STRENGTH AND STAMINA. BUT WHEN HE JOINED THE ARMY TO PROVE HIS ABILITIES, THE COLOR OF HIS *SKIN* KEPT HIM IN THE MENIAL RANKS OF *BURIAL DETAIL*--UNTIL HE TOOK ON THE *PENTAGON ITSELF* TO EARN COMBAT CLEARANCE, COMMANDO STATUS... AND THE DREADED...

AW, *C'MON*, HAZARD! IF I HAVE TO *DRIVE* YOU CLEAR TO THE *CHANNEL*, LEAST YOU CAN DO IS *TALK* TO ME! MY NAME'S *BOSTON*...

CAPTAIN ULYSSES HAZARD'S *ORDERS* WERE SIMPLE. REPORT TO A *MAJOR GARFIELD BIRCH*, GRAVESEND, ENGLAND...

I DIDN'T *VOLUNTEER* FOR THIS WAR, YOU KNOW. I-I'M A *CLERK*... AND I DON'T BELIEVE IN *FIGHTING*!

EH--? THAT *REFLECTION*-- IN THE REAR-VIEW MIRROR...!?

BOSTON, DO US A *BOTH* A FAVOR. GITCHER *MOUTH* OUTA GEAR --

--AN' YOUR *BUTT* OUTA THIS JEEP! 'CAUSE WHETHER YOU *LIKE* IT OR NOT, THIS'S *WAR*--

BRAPPARAPP

FOK FOK

--AN' WE'RE STUCK SMACK ON THE *BULLSEYE*!

WHA--?

ROGER McKENZIE, WRITER
DICK AYERS & ROMEO TANGHAL ARTISTS
MILT SNAPINN, LETTERER
JERRY SERPE, COLORIST
PAUL LEVITZ, EDITOR

MAILKRUN

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KA-WHUFFFF

BLACKNESS...

...FOLLOWED BY ACRES OF *PAIN*...

...MIXING WITH THE *HEAT* AND *STENCH* OF BURNING FUEL AND MELTING RUBBER...

OHHHHH--!

...BECOMING THE SLOW-MOTION *THROB* OF AN ANGRY *MOTOR* IN A BLOOD-RED SKY...

GOTTA... TRY'N *PULL*... MYSELF... *TOGETHER*. REACH MY... THOMPSON...

...'CAUSE THAT... NAZI VULTURE'S... *CIRCLIN'*...

RAPABRAPP

VOP VOP

VIP VIP VING

HAUL IT, HAZARD! IF THAT STUKA'S *SLUGS* FIND THE *GAS TANK*, THEY'LL BE PICKIN' YA UP BY THE *BUCKET*--

--FULLLLL...

PRUPPPARUPPP

...FOR THE... *KILL*... UNGHH!!

M-MY... *ARM*!

VING VIPP

I'M *HIT*... BLACKIN' OUT... BUT I GOTTA... *HOLD ON*... JUST A... LITTLE... LONGER...

BUZZARD'S... RIGHT OVER-HEAD. IF I DON'T... GIT 'IM *NOW*...

BRIPPPARIPPP

CHOK CHOK

BRUPPP BRUPPP

...I... NEVER WILL!

SPUT SPUTTER- SPUT

SPUTTT FLUUSH

WHEEEE

M-MOTHER...!

KA-CHOOOOOOM

AGAIN, BLACKNESS...

...AND WITH IT, *VERTIGO*...

NOTHING BUT SPINNING, SPINNING, SPINNING...

WELL, WELL! LOOKIT WHO'S WE *FOUND* HEAH! IT'S THE *CRIP*!

YEAH, YEW-LIS-SEZ, WE DONE *TOLE* YA ONCE...

NO PARKING

...THIS'S *OUR TURF*! STAY OFF, CRIP, AN' YEW WON'T GIT *HURT*!

MEBBE HE DON'T *HEAH* NO BETTER'N HE *WALKS*!

IF'N WE CATCH YEW HEAH *AGAIN*, CRIP...

KRAWHAKKKK

IT *WON'T* BE JUST YER *CRUTCH* WHUT GITS *BROKE*!

YEW UNNERSTAN' THAT, *CRIP*?

SOB SOB--!

GIT UP, HAZARD!

C'MON, KID! GIT UP! *WALK*! YOU CAN DO IT!

YOU *HAVE* TO!

N-NO, I *CAN'T*... I--

--CAN'T, HAZARD! M-MY *LEG*... HURT!

HUH--?! IT'S THE *CLERK*!

EASE UP, MAN. *EASE UP*! YOU WERE OUT ON YER FEET AN' DIDN'T EVEN *KNOW* IT!

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.

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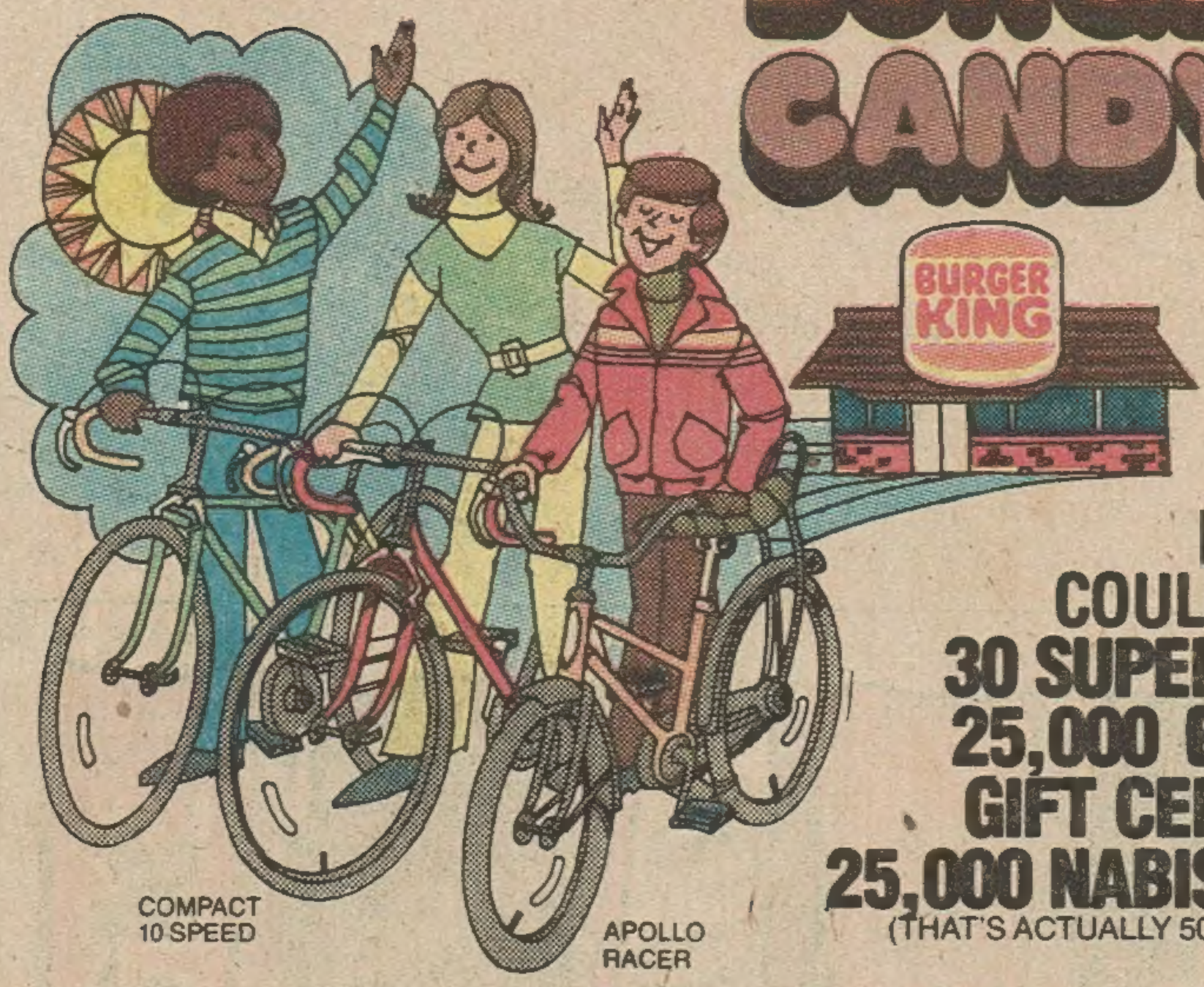

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AND, AFTER SOME QUICK *FIRST AID*...

C'MON, *BOSTON!* WE'RE *SITTIN' DUCKS* HERE IF THAT KRAUT PILOT MANAGED TO RADIO OUR *POSITIONS* TO NAZI GROUND TROOPS--

--COURSE THAT'LL BE THE LEAST'A OUR *WORRIES* IF WE DON'T FIND A *MEDICAL UNIT*-- FAST!

LONG *HOURS* PASS, HOURS FILLED WITH MOUNTING *PAIN* AND GROWING *WEAKNESS*...

CAN'T... TAKE ANOTHER... *STEP*, HAZARD! LEG'S KILLING ME. I... HAVE TO... *SIT DOWN* AND...

...R-REST?

KABLAMMMBLOMM

PRINGG

VINGG

SNIPER! HIT THE DECK, BOSTON!

ME AN' THE KID'S BOTH DOG-*TIRED*... GOTTA TAKE CARE O' THAT SNIPER-- AN' *QUICK!*

KAPOW

KABL

LEAST I GOT 'IM *SPOTTED*, THO... IN THAT OLD *SCHOOL-HOUSE* 'CROSS THE STREET!

VINGG

BARUPPARUPPP

HEADS UP, KID! YER 'BOUT TO HAVE...

TZING

...COMPANY-- UNGHHH!

THIS AIN'T DOIN' MY *ARM* A BIT'A GOOD!

BOSTON! YOU O.K.?

N-NO... YES... I MEAN I..

...OH, I DON'T KNOW WHAT I MEAN!

SPRANGG

SPRINGG

HERE! TAKE THIS. YOU THINK YOU CAN COVER ME?

B-BUT, I--BUT--?

GOOD! 'CAUSE ON THE COUNT'A THREE...

...I'M OFF AN' RUNNIN'!

GOTTA KEEP LOW... AN' RUN LIKE HELL! MY ONLY CHANCE IS TO MAKE IT INSIDE THE SCHOOLHOUSE...

BOSTON! FOR GOD'S SAKE, COVER ME! RETURN FIRE, BOSTON!

I...I...

...CAN'T... CHOKE... I CAN'T--!

DOW!

INTERLUDE-- GRAVESEND, ENGLAND--

THERE! AN *EXACT* LIKENESS!

MY *DISGUISE* IS PERFECT... AS USUAL!

MAKE

AND *NOW*, MAJOR... SINCE I NO LONGER NEED TO *PRETEND* TO BE YOUR *VERDAMMT* CHAUFFEUR...

...I THINK IT IS TIME YOU *MET*...

...THE MAN WHO WILL END YOUR WORTHLESS LIFE! *HEIL HITLER!*

KRACH

ACH! THIS CHAIR IS MOST *UNCOMFORTABLE*-- BUT IT IS A DISCOMFORT I MUST *LEARN* TO BEAR!

IT IS FOR *WEAKLINGS*...

...BUT, THEN, BIRCH IS A WEAK MAN--AS ARE ALL WHO DARE *OPPOSE* THE GLORIOUS *THIRD REICH*!

EH--? THAT YOU, HENRY?

HENRY--?

WHA--? *W-WHO* ARE YOU? WHAT IS THE MEANING OF T-THIS? *UNGHH*!

M-MOVED TOO *SUDDENLY*...TOO QUICKLY! FEELS LIKE MY BACK IS BREAKING!*

*THE MAJOR WAS SEVERELY INJURED BACK IN ISSUE #3 ..AND ANY SUDDEN MOVEMENTS MOVEMENTS COULD BE FATAL. --PAUL.

REALLY, MAJOR, YOU *DISAPPOINT* ME...

...GREATLY!

BALAMM

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.

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LET ME OUT OF HERE.

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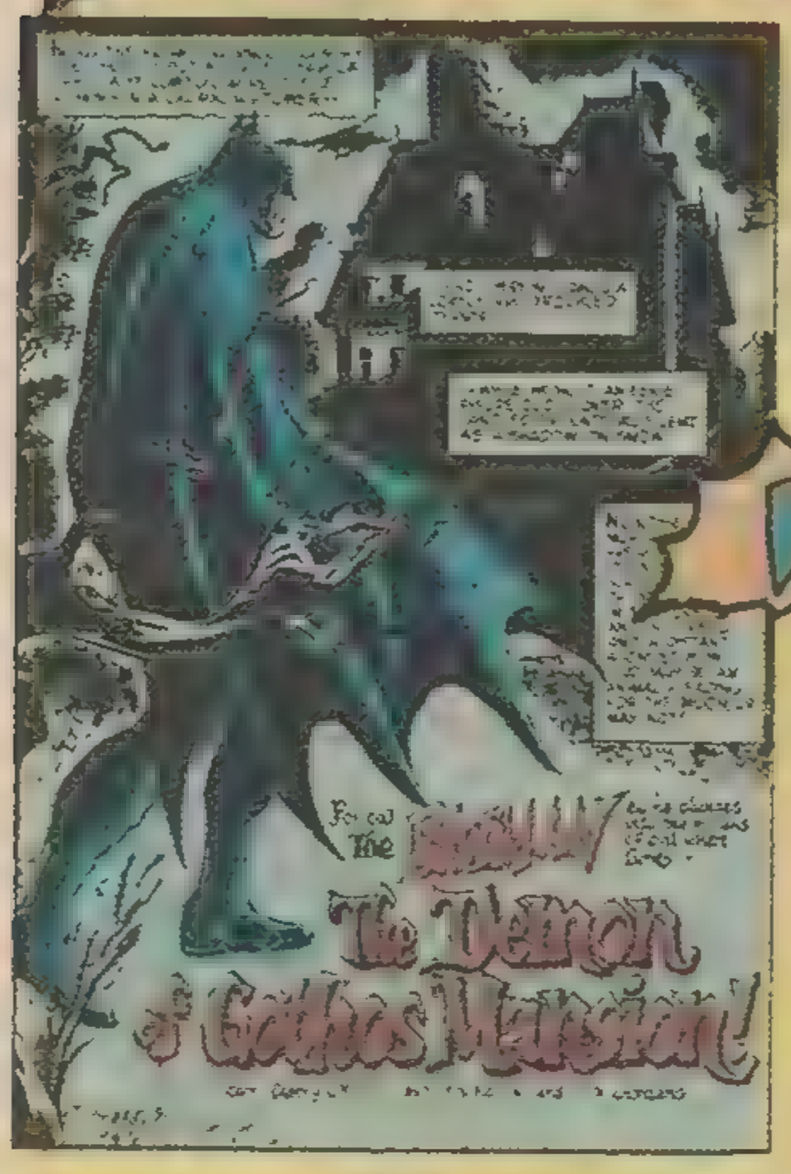

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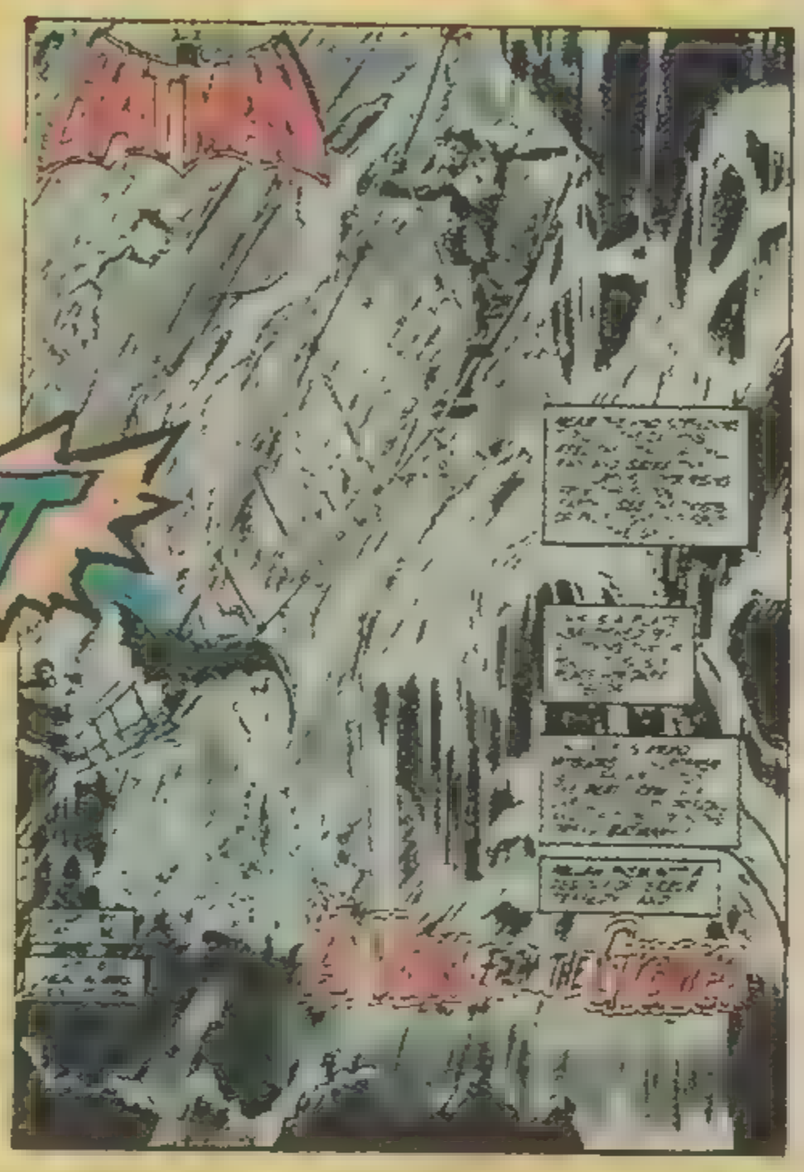

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OHHH! I-I'M *HURTIN'* ALL OVER--

--BUT I AIN'T *COMPLAININ'!*

AT LEAST I'M STILL *ALIVE...*

...BARELY!

BUT I WON'T BE FOR *LONG*, 'LESS I GIT IN THAT SCHOOLHOUSE 'FORE THE SNIPER *REALIZES* I'M STILL *ALIVE*--

--AN' *KICKIN'!*

KERAKKKK

ECOLE

... SURPRISE--!?

VAS?

LOST MY *THOMPSON*... AN' MY *AUTOMATIC!* MY ONLY HOPE IS TO CATCH THAT NAZI BY...

IT TAKES *THREE SECONDS.* JUST THREE *SHORT* SECONDS...

BLAM KABLAM

KHWIPP

...JUST TIME ENOUGH...

...FOR A MAN TO *DIE!*

AND A FEW MINUTES LATER...

SKRUFF

SKRUFF

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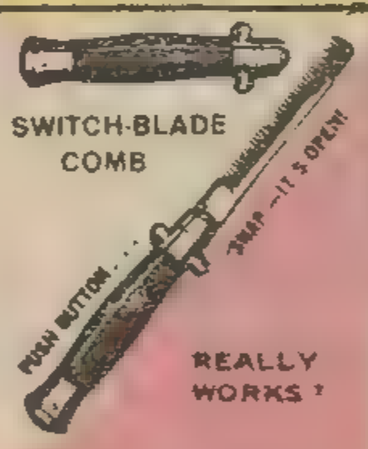

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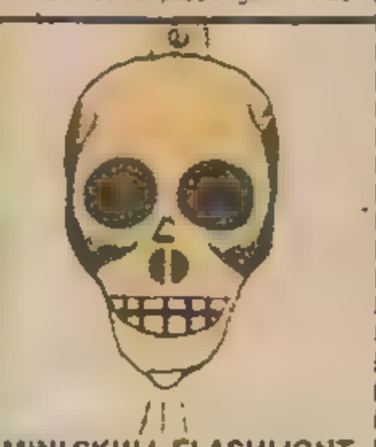

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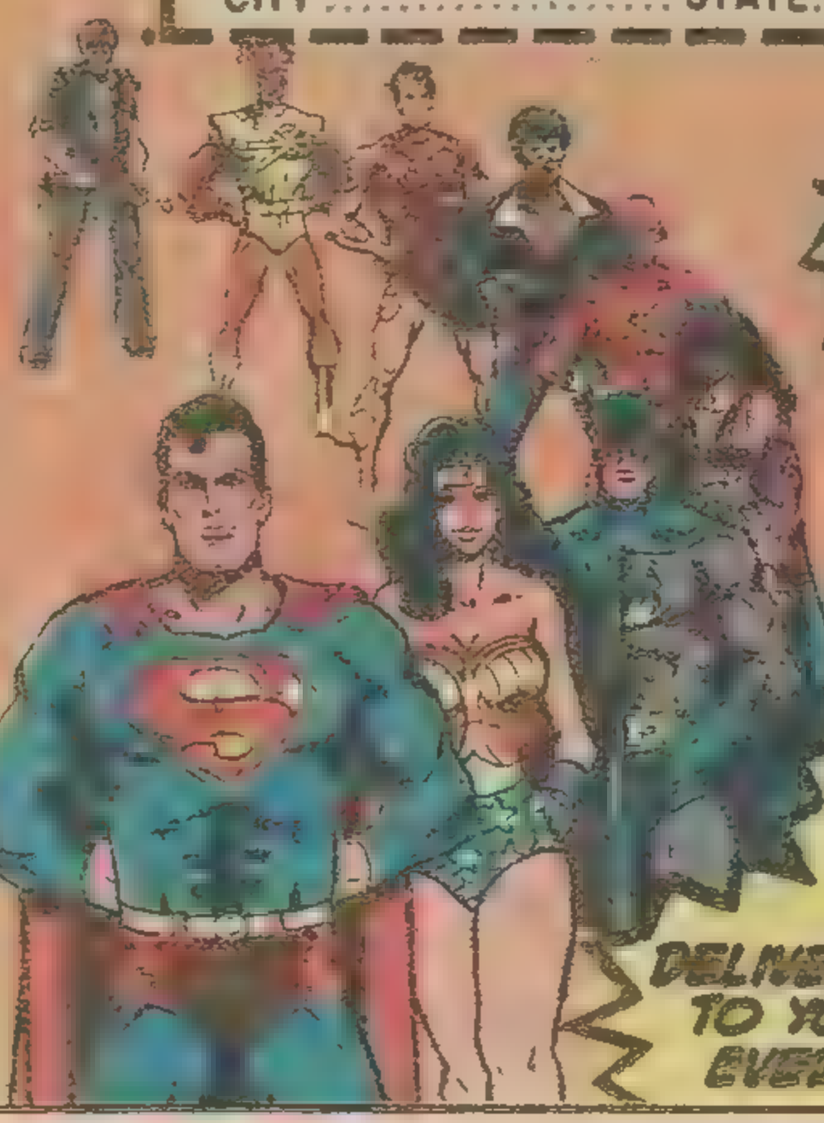

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W-WHA--? OH, *HAZARD!*

...AN' IF YOU CAN'T BRING YOURSELF TO *SHOOT* IT... MEBBE YOU CAN STILL USE IT LIKE A *CRUTCH.*

I-IS IT *OVER* NOW, HAZARD? ALL THE *NOISE*... SO LOUD...J-JUST LIKE...; *SOB*; ...LIKE *WHEN*...

IN HALTING, BROKEN SENTENCES, BOSTON'S *STORY* UNFOLDS. HE HAD BEEN A *CHILD* WHEN ONE WINDY WINTER'S NIGHT...

H-HOLD IT RIGHT THERE! YA SEE THIS? THIS 'A *ROD*--AN' I AIN'T *SCARED* TO USE IT, N-NEITHER!

NOW SHOWING WINTER

O-OH--!?

...ON A COLD, EMPTY *STREET*...

JOHN!

N-NO! STAY *BACK* OR I'LL--

WHY, YOU YOUNG *HOODLUM*, I OUGHT TO--*UNGHH*

BLAM BLAM

S-SHUT UP, LADY! JUST... *SHUT...UP...*

BLAM BLAM

UNNN!

M-MOMMA... POPPA...?

LISSEN; KID...I...I DIDN'T *MEAN* TO...I... JUST...

AND EVEN NOW, THE *NIGHTMARES* REMAIN. EVEN NOW HE CAN STILL *HEAR* THE AWFUL, PAINFUL ROAR OF...

;CHOKE;

...A JEEP! GIT DOWN, BOSTON, AN' IF WE'RE LUCKY...

KRROOMM

...

...WE'LL GIT TO GO FIRST CLASS!

AMERIKANER!

UNGHH!

SORRY, "FRIENDS"-- BUT THIS SEAT'S TAKEN!

SURE HOPE THIS WORKS! ARM... HURTS... TOO MUCH TO TRY ANYTHING ELSE!

ARGHH!

UGHHH!

THOKK

THAKK

AND SO...

...SHOULD BE REACHIN' THAT MEDICAL UNIT...

...ANY TIME NOW.

THERE IT IS, BOSTON. LOOKS LIKE WE GOT IT...

VVVREEEBLAMMM

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.

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KLANGARUMMMMMM

...BIG TROUBLE!

A NAZI *PANZER!*

KLANGARUMMMM

WHEW! THAT WAS *CLOSE!* TOO CLOSE! NEARLY GOT *FLATTENED*...

KLARUMM

...BUT IF THERE'S ANY *FLATTENIN'* GOIN' ON HERE...

PLNG

BULOOOWWW

...IT SURE AIN'T GONNA BE *ME!*

THE CLERK'S STILL *ALIVE*... BUT HE'S OUTA THIS ONE FOR THE *DURATION!*

AN' THAT'S PROBABLY JUST AS WELL.

TAT TAT TAT TAT

...'CAUSE THERE'S SOME *REAL* SOLDIERS - NEEDIN' HELP... AN' I AIN'T GOT *TIME* TO WET NURSE NO... *COWARDS!*

NAZIS' RE ATTACKIN' THAT *HOSPITAL!*

BRUMMA DRUMM

YER UNDER *FIRE!* C'MON, YA GOTTA GIT OUTA HERE!

NO WAY, SOLDIER...

...I CAN'T STOP THE *OPERATION* NOW--OR THIS GI'S *DEAD MEAT!*

AT LEAST HE'S GONNA HAVE *COMPANY*, DOC! THOSE PANZERS AIN'T *STOPPIN'* EITHER!

GO ON! GIT GOIN', EVEN IF YA GOTTA *CRAWL!*

AT LEAST I CAN TRY'N GIT SOME'A THESE *WALKIN' WOUNDED* OUTA HERE!

NOTHIN' I CAN DO-- 'CEPT TRY AN' *STOP* A FEW 'A THESE KRAUT *TANKS*...

BBBRUPPP

BLAMM

...SURRRRE... THAT'S ALL. JUST ONE *PROBLEM*, THOUGH...

...I AIN'T QUITE FIGGERED *HOW* I'M GONNA DO THAT YET! 'SPECIALLY...

TAC TAC TAC CLIK CLICK

...SINCE I JUST RUN OUTA *AMMO!* FACE IT, HAZARD, THIS JUST AIN'T BEEN YER *DAY!* YOU-- *HUH?*

HAZARD!

SAVE SOME FOR *US*, WILL YOU?

IT'S THE CLERK-- LEADIN' A RAG-TAG COLLECTION'A *WALKIN' WOUNDED!* WHAT'RE THEY TRYIN' TO *PROVE?*

BLAMM KABLAMM

HERE! LET 'EM CHEW ON *THIS* FOR A WHILE!

HUH? HE'S GOT A *GRENADE!* AN' HE'S THROWIN' IT RIGHT AT *ME!*

NO... NOT AT ME... TO ME!

...AN' THAT MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE!

VAS! A GRENA--

DEEBALAMMMM

G-GOTTA GIT UP... BOSTON... AIN'T A... SOLDIER... HE'S A... CLERK. HE'LL... NEED HELP...

...HE'LL...

...DO... JUST... FINNNE

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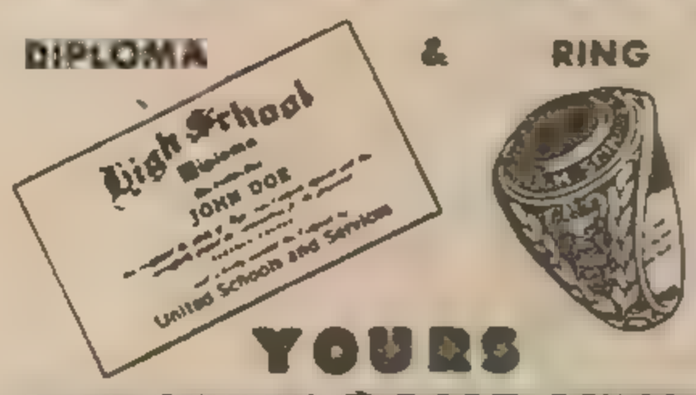

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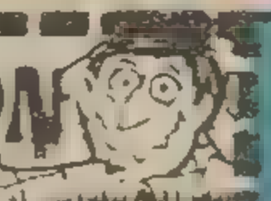

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A WEEK LATER...

INFIRMARY

1054TH MEDICAL UNIT

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HELLO, CLERK.

I'M MOVIN' *OUT* AFTER AWHILE, BOSTON. JUST THOUGHT I'D DROP IN AN' SAY *GOODBYE*... AN' THANKS.

YOU SAVED A HELL OF A LOT O' *LIVES* THE OTHER DAY...

...INCLUDIN' *MINE*. BOSTON, I AIN'T MUCH *GOOD* AT SAYIN' I'M *SORRY*, BUT--

FORGET IT, HAZARD-- I CAN'T HEAR A WORD YOU'RE SAYING.

THE *EXPLOSION*... FROM THE TANK SHELL... I STILL *CAN'T HEAR A THING*, INCLUDING GUNFIRE...

...SO I DIDN'T *FREEZE UP* BACK THERE. AND YOU KNOW WHAT, HAZARD, I THINK I *LICKED* IT.

I HAVEN'T BEEN HAVIN' *NIGHTMARES* LATELY.

I GOTTA *SHOVE OFF* NOW, BOSTON. TAKE CARE O' YERSELF, *CLERK*.

I'M *NOT* A CLERK, HAZARD. I'M A *SOLDIER*... AT LAST. I THINK MY FOLKS WOULD HAVE BEEN *PROUD*...

WHA--? YOU MEAN YOU HEARD *EVERY WORD* I SAID...

...YOU *LITTLE* @*#!!@#*!!

HAHA HAHA HA!

INFIRMARY

NEXT...

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L-918

Dear Paul,

I don't bother with any of the war mags because I am a true fan of the super-hero field. So when **MEN OF WAR** came out I bought the first issue only to have as part of my first issue collection.

Then I read it. I was hooked, but I remained silent. Then I got the second . . . the third . . . the fourth. All issues to date have been great.

Naturally, there has to be an antagonist, and the Lieutenant is obviously the one! I also hope that **Code Name: Gravedigger** becomes a series with good social values, just like we saw at the end of "Trial by Fire."

Here are a few suggestions: (1) Have **Gravedigger** team up with other war heroes; (2) Have **Gravedigger** "reintroduce" war heroes who had their own series; and (3) Try "Day After Doomsday" as one of rotating back-ups.

Gordon Lee
Rt. 4
Dawsonville, GA 30534

Plans are underway to have Gravedigger meet the Unknown Soldier in the near future, and after that we'll probably have the other war stars show up . . . including some of the war stars who no longer have their own series. Mlle. Marie's an easy bet in that department, because she's always occupied a special spot in our heart. "Day After Doomsday" is a much less likely bet—if you want to follow that series, stick with WEIRD WAR TALES.—PL.

* * * * *

Paul,

The **Gravedigger** installment in **MEN OF WAR #4** was the only installment of the series that I haven't liked. The reason? It contained too little plot and characterization; much less than I've come to expect from this feature.

This is the trouble you run into with continued stories: the concluding chapter(s) rarely turn out to be independently successful stories. Big deal, so Gravedigger beat the bad guys—but wasn't that to be expected? If not for the introduction of the "mystery man", this issue's story would have been a complete waste.

The highlight of **MEN OF WAR #4** was **Dateline: Frontline.** I hadn't expected much from this mini-series, especially after reading Cary Burkett's "Gordon of Khartoum" in **WEIRD WAR #59.** I was pleasantly surprised by its excellence.

The plot was extremely interesting and the story well done. Unless I'm mistaken, there's been no newspaper reporter series since the decline of EC's EXTRA! in the late 50s, and in my opinion, **Dateline: Frontline** has already surpassed EXTRA! in quality. As for the art, it was the best, tightest work I've ever seen from Jerry Grandinetti, even resembling Jack Davis in some places. Great!

Perhaps the most significant reason I like the story, though, was that it fit as a seven page story, whereas a character like **Enemy Ace** needs much more.

Brian Hayes
364 Scott Hall
Champaign, IL 61820

Glad you enjoyed Dateline, Brian—all the more so since it fit into six pages, not seven. Cary and Jerry are already working on the next cycle, which will begin in #9—the first issue of MEN OF WAR in our new three-feature format! Next issue, Enemy Ace is back, and then we'll be featuring all three of your favorites every issue.—PL.

* * * * *

Dear Comrades,

Well, you sure have outdone yourselves this time over there in the Big Apple. Just when I was getting fed up with every new issue coming out as an x-ray of a previous first edition you came out with a war mag that has a personality all its own. And better yet, not only did you beat the monotony of war mags, but you did it with an epic that beats any that I have come upon so far. But don't get big heads yet, I'm talking about **Gravedigger,** not your fill-in, **Enemy Ace**

I'm not saying that **Enemy Ace** is all that bad, but you consider both men to be stars of the magazine. That's going too far. I can't wait until you fade Von Hammer out so we will have a whole issue of Ulysses Hazard to drool over.

With this new mag you have renewed my faith in **DC.**

William A. Rich
1449 Nightingale Rd.
Louisville, KY 40213

And the reader reaction to MEN OF WAR, both at the newsstand and the mailbox, has renewed our faith in you. Our first three issues have had solid sales reports, and we can now plan for the future with confidence—something very few new magazines can do this early in their careers. Thank you—and we hope that we'll continue to be worthy of your time and hard-earned coin.—Paul Levitz, Editor.

COMING THIS SUMMER! THE EXPLOSION! Cinnamon

THE DC FEATURE PAGE

F-6

Q: How old is *The Joker?*—David A. Lofvers. *A:* Since we don't even know *who* the Clown Prince of Crime really is, we've got no idea!

Q: Where did *Captain Cold* first confront *The Flash?*—Chris Hruza.

A: The Coldest Man on Earth met the Fastest Man Alive in the very first adventure of the Scarlet Speedster, *SHOWCASE #4.*

Q: Were there ever Earth-2 heroes named *Johnny Quick* and *Soundwave?*—No Name Given. *A: Johnny Quick* is on Earth-2 (and recently reappeared in *THE FLASH SPECTACULAR). Air* Wave is on Earth-1, and his son is *Air Wave II,* currently in action in GREEN LANTERN.

Q: Who really is the Man of Tomorrow, *Superman* or *Captain Comet?*—Mitch Durdle. *A:* Both heroes have attributes the man of the future will have, so both are worthy of the nickname.

Q: Can *Life Lass* of the *Legion* bring people back to life?—No Name Given. *A:* You're thinking of *Light Lass,* who can make things weightless!

Q: What is *Speedy*'s relation to *Green Arrow?*—Chuck Colvin. *A:* Roy *(Speedy)* Harper is Ollie *(Green Arrow)* Queen's ward.

Q: What appeared in *BRAVE & BOLD #'s 72, 73* and *124?*—Tim Wiles.

A: #72 featured *The Flash* and the *Spectre; #73* featured *Aquaman* and *The Atom;* and *#124* starred Batman and *Sgt. Rock.*

Q: How can *Superman* use his heat vision without melting his Kent glasses?—Bob Worley. *A:* The lenses are made from the window of baby Kal-El's rocket, so it is just as indestructible as *Superman* himself.

Q: Do *Aquaman* and *Lori the Mermaid* come from the same Atlantis?—Kurt Lindblom. *A:* They come from different kingdoms on the undersea continent.

Q: Does the Earth-2 *Green Lantern* serve the Guardians of the Universe?—John Ybarra. *A:* No, that *GL* is not part of the Corps.

Q: Why doesn't *Superman* marry Lois Lane?—Richard Gall. *A:* He does in *ACTION #484,* now on sale!

Q: Wasn't Carol Ferris the first *Star Sapphire* . . . and didn't she originally battle *Green Lantern?*—Penny Jacobson. *A:* Yes she was . . . and she did! For the complete story of the connection between Carol and the new *Star Sapphire,* check out *SECRET SOCIETY OF SUPER-VILLAINS #17,* on sale in July.

Got a question for the Answer Man? Send it to Bob Rozakis, DC Comics, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10019.

dc profiles number 34

* roger * mckenzie

You can watch *Roger McKenzie* think. That's a fact. Ask him a question and he'll puff on his ever-present pipe, rock back and forth on the balls of his feet and scratch his beard, all the while gazing deeply into your eyes.

Sometimes he'll repeat the process before answering in his classic Southern drawl. He chooses his words carefully, but often ends his reply with an impish twist that reveals a wry sense of humor that never fails to trigger a smile.

But while Roger's speech may appear slow and deliberate, his career in comics is rocketing along. In less than three years, Roger has written for the Warren black-and-white line, scripted *Daredevil* and *Ghost Rider* for Marvel, and sold two new series ideas to DC. In addition, he's also scripting three other DC features: The Vigilante for *Aquaman,* The Ray (from *Freedom Fighters)* for *Black Lightning,* and Code Name: Gravedigger for *Men of War.*

Roger's own creations for DC are The Man from Neverwhere, a mysterious hero who operates behind the iron curtain, and Cinammon, a female gambler in the Old West who grew up on the Barbary Coast. The Man from Neverwhere will appear in *Adventure Comics* beginning with #460 and Cinammon will appear in *Weird Western Tales* beginning with #48.

But this rapid success as a comics writer hasn't gone to Roger's head. His outlook on his stories is still the same as it's always been: entertainment, pure and simple. "Basically," he says, "I write stories that make me happy."

Comics have been a life-long love for Roger. The Kentucky-born lad was only six when he read a *Showcase* issue of The Flash. He hasn't stopped reading comics since. But like any good writer, Roger's influences extend beyond the boundaries of his chosen medium. The work of such storytellers as Alfred Hitchcock, Ray Bradbury, Rod Serling, Richard Matheson, and Robert Bloch have had their effect on him.

Today, Roger lives with his wife, Dickie, their dog, Rulio, and two cats in a house in Queens where they occasionally host poker parties for other card-playing comics folk.

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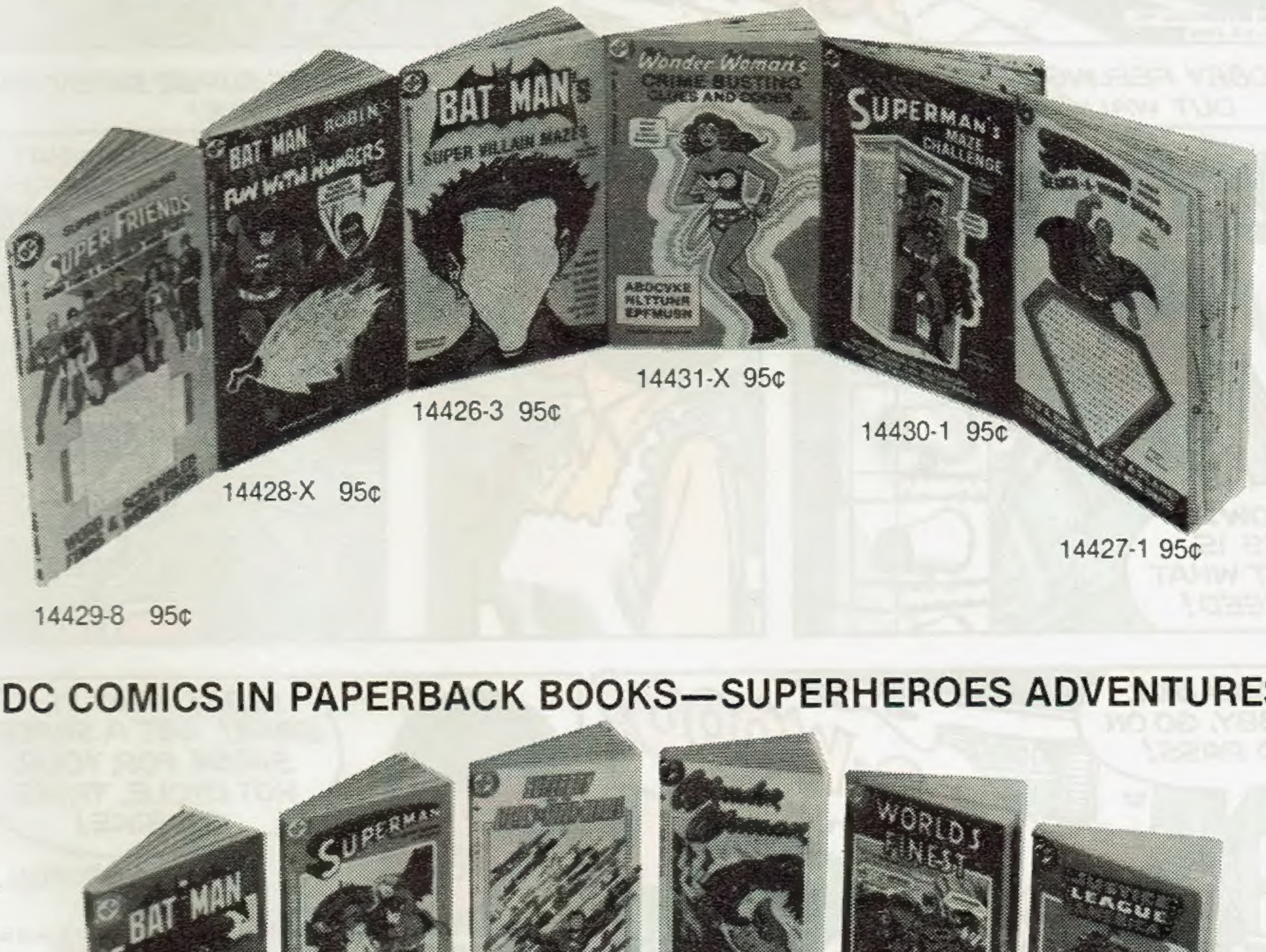
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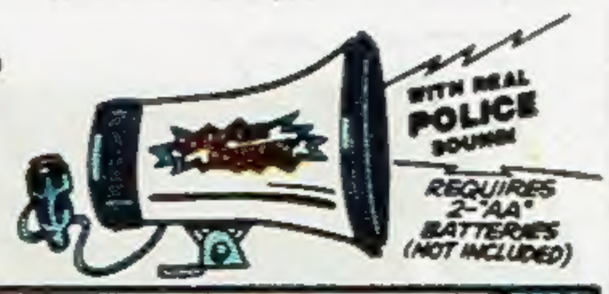

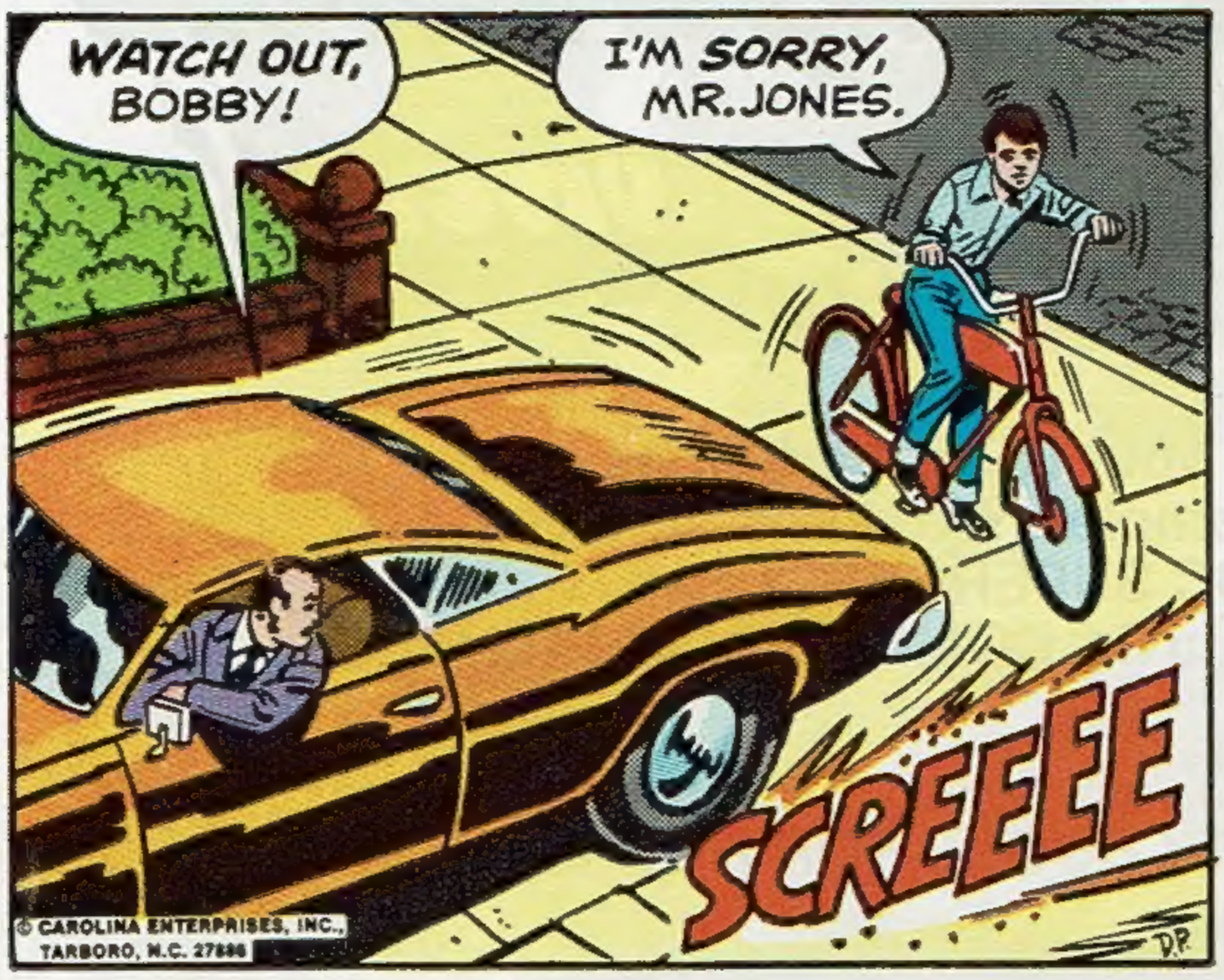

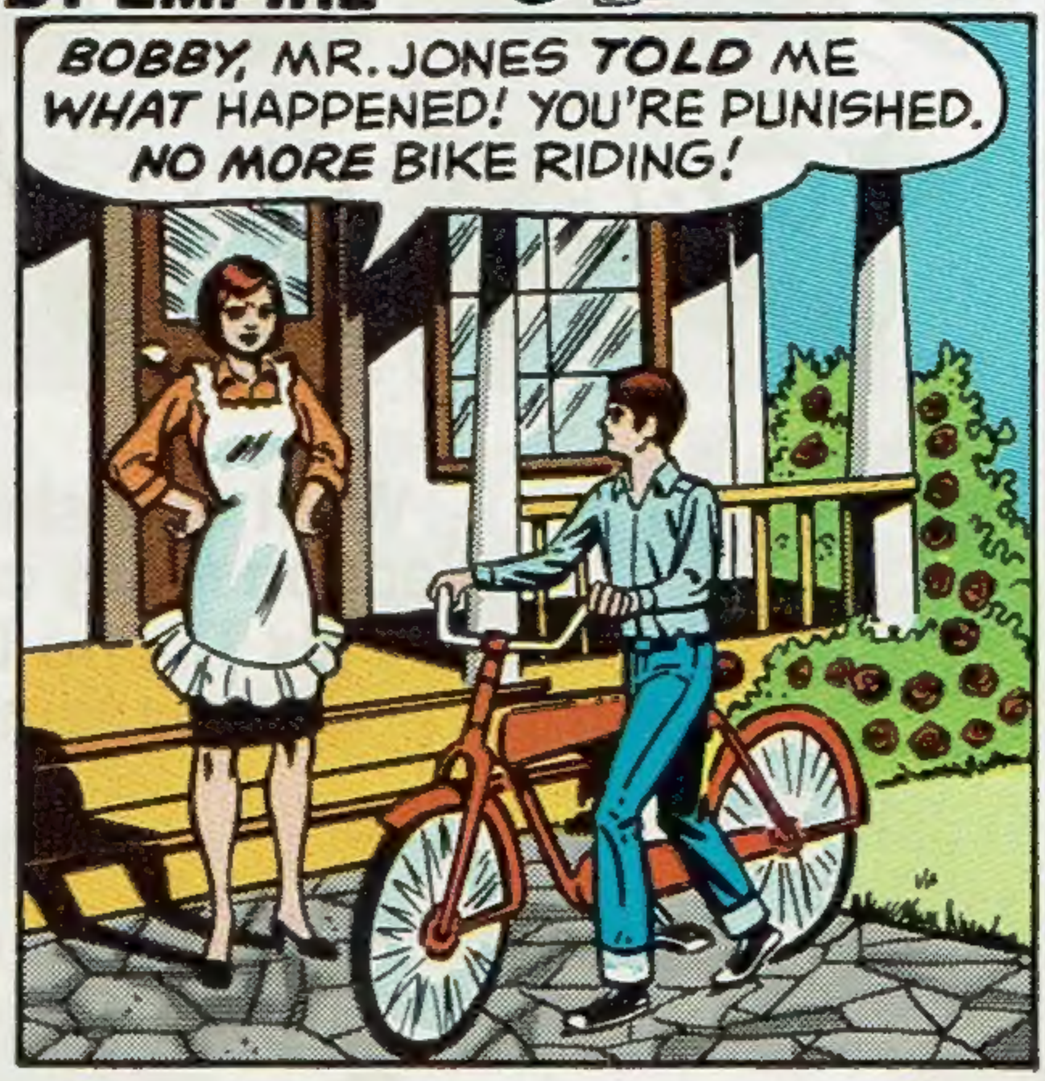

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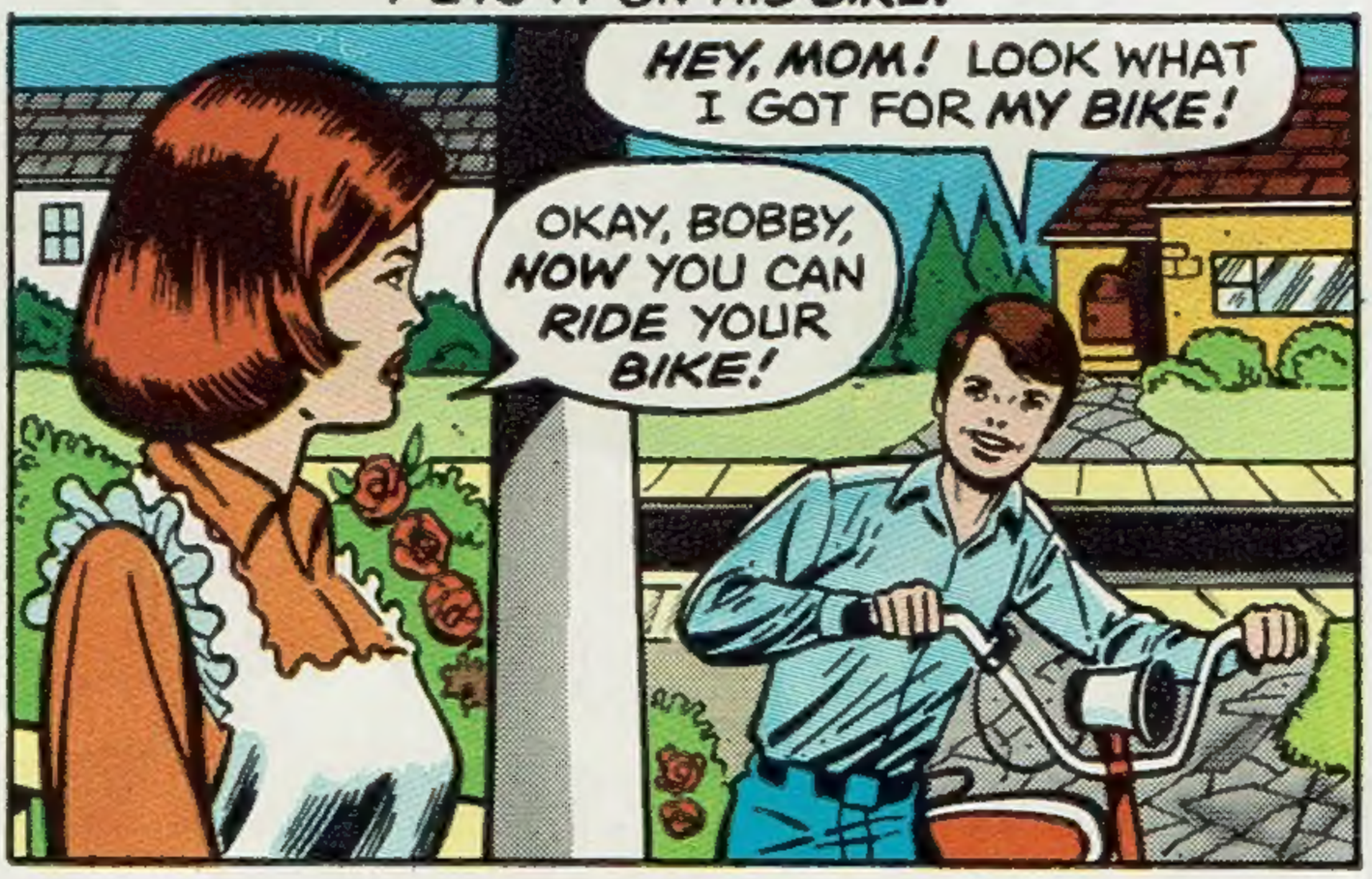

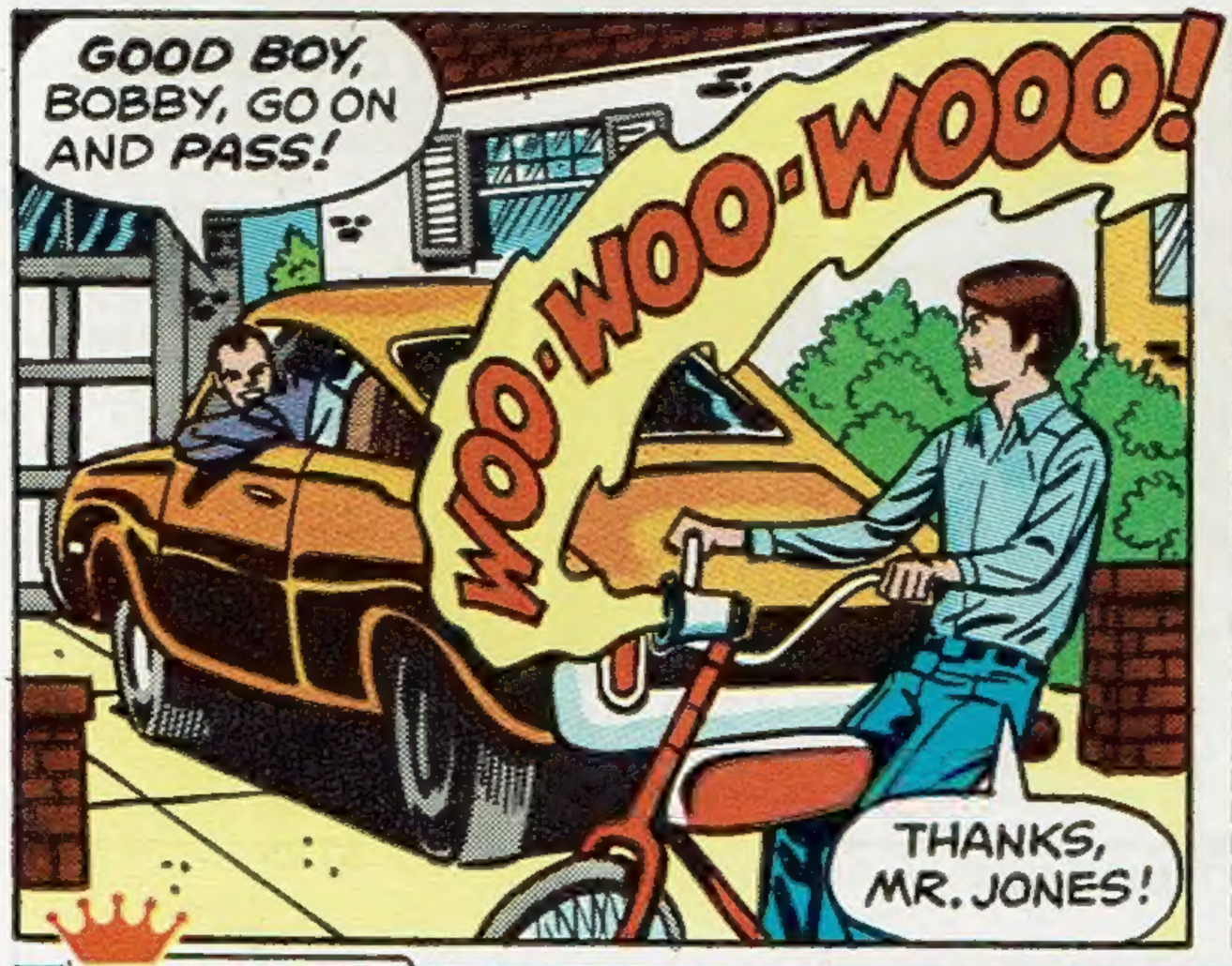

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